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10025 39<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98125  
**March**24, 2001

FDA Commissioner  
Docket No. OON-1396/OOD-1598  
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA:

Your new proposed rule and guidance on genetically engineered (GE) foods do not go far enough. I thus oppose them. All GE foods and food ingredients *should be labeled* as such, so that I, as a consumer, can make an informed choice as to what I am eating and feeding others. GE foods should not be assumed safe and should be subject to *mandatory testing*. Furthermore, until long-term studies have been conducted that can show that GE foods are safe for humans and the environment, there should be a ***moratorium on GE food production and distribution***. The FDA's voluntary labeling and notification proposals are totally inadequate. The recent Starlink corn debacle shows how poorly industry-based oversight works and how misplaced is FDA's trust in GE seed and food producers. Finally, you do a disservice to American farmers, via your cavalier attitude to GE food safety and production, because, rightly, many of them will be unable to sell GE and GE-contaminated food products in foreign markets.

Sincerely,

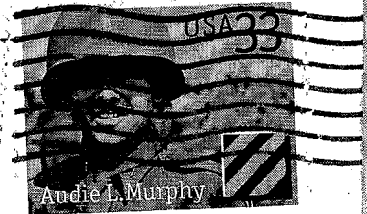
*J. W. Lavelle*

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